

Fritz-Haber-Institut der Max-Planck-Gesellschaft







Michael Polanyi Symposium: Connecting Science and the Humanities

October 5, 2016 at 14:00

Technische Universität Berlin Institut für Chemie, Straße des 17. Juni 115, Lecture Hall **C 130**



Prominent among the luminaries who set up their laboratory in Weimar Berlin was the polymath Michael Polanyi (1891-1976); this years marks the 125th anniversary of his birth. In 1920 he received a research position at Reginald Herzog's Kaiser Wilhelm Institute for Fiber Chemistry and in 1923 switched to Fritz Haber's Institute for Physical Chemistry and Electrochemistry as Head of the Department of Chemical Kinetics. After Habilitation at the Berlin University (today Humboldt University) he taught as Extraordinarius at the forerunner of Berlin's Technical University. A distinguished physical chemist at the time of his forced emigration from Germany in 1933, Polanyi settled in England and became a key figure in the philosophy and sociology of science. The Michael Polanyi Symposium will celebrate his legacy in both science and the humanities.

14:00-14:05	Musikalischer Auftakt (Horn-Ensemble der Universität der Künste)
14:05-14:10	Welcome
14:10-15:00	Dudley Herschbach: Michael Polanyi–Patriarch of Chemical Dynamics and Tacit Knowing
15:00-15:50	Mary Jo Nye: Michael Polanyi–Science as Personal Knowledge and Social Practice
15:50-16:20	Coffee Break
16:20-17:10	Istvan Hargittai: Michael Polanyi–Honorary Martian of Science
17.10-18.00	Tributes & Reminiscences (G Frt1 I Jortner J Polanvi P Toennies R Zahradnik)

18:00-18:05 Musikalischer Ausklang (Horn-Ensemble der Universität der Künste)

Dudley Herschbach, Professor Emeritus of chemistry at Harvard University and 1986 Chemistry Nobel laureate, is best known for elucidating molecular collision dynamics of elementary chemical reactions, starting from early work by Michael Polanyi.

Mary Jo Nye is Professor Emerita at Oregon State University and author of *Michael Polanyi and His Generation: Origins of the Social Construction of Science*.

Istvan Hargittai is Professor Emeritus at the University of Budapest and author of the *Martians of Science* and co-author of the *Wisdom of the Martians of Science*.

For more information, please visit <u>https://indico.rz-berlin.mpg.de/indico/event/3/</u> The event is open to the public.





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